

Building Officials Tour Steel Plant, Lunch In Aud

A group of about 80 members of the Pacific Coast Building Officials' Conference preceded a luncheon-meeting in the Civic Auditorium today with a plant visit and inspection of the Columbia Steel company's many departments here this morning. The Conference, which is composed of building inspectors, city engineers and allied professional men, was holding its regular monthly session.

Headed by President Frank H. Clough, city engineer of South Pasadena, the group toured the steel plant accompanied by Columbia department heads, who explained the various steel manufacture operations. Superintendent Henry T. Lintott welcomed the group at the entrance to the office building.

Following luncheon in the Civic Auditorium, there was a brief program of entertainment, part of which was provided by the Conference's hosts in Torrance and Eric Barnett, manager of industrial accounts for Columbia Steel, expressed the company's pleasure at serving the group with one of their most interesting field trips.

The business portion of the afternoon meeting was devoted to building code problems with particular reference to slough areas and linings.

Council Rushes Thru Session to See Game

Well aware that a state tournament baseball game was in progress at the city park diamond, city councilmen wasted no time at their session Tuesday night and managed to set a new record for brief meetings by adjourning 24 minutes after convening at the city hall. Before most of them hurried down to the ball park, the municipal managers transacted the following business:

Purchased \$5,174.26 worth of new equipment, including a Chalmer's grader, complete with loader and bulldozer blade. This will replace the city's old grader which had only a \$25 trade-in value. A special lawn mower for the small city parks was bought for \$335.65 and another for the municipal park for \$355.05. Six hundred feet of fire hose was purchased for \$108.52 and a new typewriter obtained for the city clerk's office for \$61.59.

Actual tests of an amplifying system for the fire department, which when attached to the telephone permits all members of the central station force to hear the report of alarms, convinced the council such equipment would improve the department's efficiency. The system was ordered purchased for \$100. It will be installed by Oscar Butterfield, city electrician.

May Purchase Church.
The Walters Civic Association submitted a map showing sections of the community that need

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PROSECUTOR . . . Chief department counsel in the deportation hearing for Harry Bridges is Thomas Shoemaker, above, legal officer for the immigration bureau.

BRIDGES HEARING . . . These personalities were photographed as the Department of Labor began its hearing at the Angel Island Immigration Station in San Francisco Bay which will determine whether Harry Bridges shall be deported as a Communist and undesirable alien. The west coast CIO leader is shown above in right picture (with his 14-year-old daughter Jacqueline Betty on his left and Chief Defense Counsel Carol King on his right) aboard boat to island, where he denied he "is now or ever was" a member of Communist party. In upper left picture, in grim visage, is presiding examiner, Dean James M. Landis of Harvard Law School, conferring with San Francisco Immigration Commissioner John J. McGrath.

HEAD-ON COLLISION
Returning home early yesterday morning, Carl Steele of 1320 Cota avenue, driving south on Western was struck head-on near East Road by a car being driven north by Joe Cypress of Gardena. Steele was unhurt but Cypress was taken to a Gardena physician's home for treatment of head injuries.

M.W.D. Calls for Water Softening Plant Estimates

Bids for furnishing additional equipment for the Metropolitan Water District's \$3,000,000 water softening plant on the Colorado river aqueduct near La Verne are to be opened July 27 in Los Angeles.

The aqueduct proper is scheduled to be in actual operation before the end of the year, but the softening plant will not be in use until sometime next spring, it has been estimated. Construction of the water district's storage reservoir in the Palos Verdes Hills, which is to provide water supply at constant pressure for Torrance, Long Beach and Compton, three member cities in the southern end of the county, now is well under way. Workmen are rushing to completion the last section of the San Jacinto tunnel.

CHAMBERS TO MEET
A number of local residents plan to attend tonight's dinner-meeting of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce at the California Yacht club in Wilmington.



SOCK IT, LUCY! . . . The rising young screen player, Lucille Ball, swings at a fast one during a sunny badminton game on a Hollywood court—just like many another girl enjoying mid-summer sports in the Southland. For those who want to know what she's wearing, the costume is crisp white shorts and blouse of uncrushable linen.

Survey Discloses Gardenans Desire Municipal Bus Line

A Gardena-wide survey, undertaken to determine that city's reaction to the proposed establishment of a municipal bus line that may be linked to similar service in Torrance, Long Beach and Waltham, has indicated that a great majority of Gardenans favor the motor transit project.

Report of the survey has been filed with the Gardena city council. What action will be taken on the proposal is not definitely known.

A similar survey is to be made in Torrance in the near future. Mayor William H. Tolson was authorized by the city council to undertake this method of finding out if local residents desire a Torrance line, serving Waltham and Compton and tying in with Gardena's buses to provide fast, cheap transportation to Los Angeles. Tolson indicated this week that the local canvass will be started sometime next month.

Patronage Pledged
House-to-house canvassers in Gardena made 1,529 contacts, it was reported, and of those who expressed an opinion, 874 favored establishment of a line that would connect with the yellow car line or Los Angeles motor buses. Only 146 opposed the

plan. The survey was confined to the incorporated city of Gardena and disclosed that 104 people would use the buses daily.

It is estimated by those in charge of the Gardena proposal that perhaps an equal number of Shoestring strip residents and those living in territory north of Gardena would also make daily use of the line if it was established. A total of 1,221 said they would use the municipal buses occasionally.

Property owners only were asked if they would favor an increase in taxes to finance the line and this question disclosed the rather surprising fact that a majority of the people who "would have to foot the bill" favored an increase in Gardena city levies to finance a bus line. The figures were 321 favorable to (Continued on Page 3-A)

Southland Publishers Greet Dr. Buchman

By GROVER C. WHYTE

"Moral Re-Armament is the triumph of a God-given thought," declared Dr. Frank N. D. Buchman, founder of the Oxford Movement, before a group of Southern California newspaper publishers luncheon at the Los Angeles Times building Tuesday.

It was a most inspiring and encouraging gathering, addressed besides Dr. Buchman, by journalists from London, Copenhagen, Stockholm, and other European capitals. Here were men whose lives and work have brought them in touch with realities—it's their job to see and know things as they really exist. And sensing the awful and inevitable climax to which the race in competitive armaments, class hatreds and selfishness must lead, they have taken time out to tour the world and preach the simple home truths that some of us learned at our mother's knee—honesty, purity, unselfishness and love—the four pylons in the MRA program.

How firmly the movement has taken hold of Great Britain was strikingly illustrated by Tod Sloan, fiery veteran of 40 years' labor organizing in England. He told us: "All my life I have been in the business of making trouble, but after learning of this movement for moral re-armament I have changed my whole motive and am working to promote harmony and better understanding between labor and capital."

Congress at Del Monte
The vivacious little labor leader told of visiting the home of a steelworker where the parents of a 12-year-old son were always quarreling, but which since the inception of the MRA movement had suddenly changed to an abode of peace and happiness. "Who's boss in this house?" asked Sloan of the boy. "God's boss now," said the lad. "And when God is boss in

City MRA Group Named by Mayor

Torrance will be well represented at the "Call of the Nations for Moral Re-Armament" in Hollywood Bowl, July 19, at 8 p. m. Among those who have been named on the Torrance committee by Mayor William H. Tolson are: all members of the city council and their wives, as well as City Clerk and Mrs. A. H. Bartlett, City Attorney and Mrs. John E. McCall, Mr. and Mrs. Carl D. Steele, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Babcock, Rev. and Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall, Rev. and Mrs. E. W. Mats, as well as representatives of the Rotary, Kiwanis, 20-30, National Business and Professional Women clubs.

Admission to the Hollywood Bowl meeting will be by ticket only, which may be secured without charge from MRA Headquarters, Hollywood Hotel, or by phoning Hollywood 2119.

Industrial relations strikes and strife will cease just as domestic quarrels disappear when love and unselfishness hold sway in the home.

Dr. Buchman heads the group of MRA leaders who will address a public meeting at the Hollywood Bowl, July 19. At Del Monte, an MRA world congress will be held from July 21 to 31. This meeting may be the "springboard" for this message to the whole world, Dr. Buchman states.

Pencil Portraits of Prominent Personalities

Sketched by ELIZABETH LOSEY

If there is a gadget, appliance, decoration or device for automobiles that E. E. Murchison doesn't know about, then it's a safe bet that the accessory has small merit.

The general manager of the Western Auto Supply store at 1273 Sartori avenue is, recognized as an authority on automobile equipment and from his well-stocked store he can furnish motorists with everything from top dressing to tires.

Murchison opened the Western Auto store here in 1937 and has since become identified as one of this city's most progressive merchants. He has had wide experience in his line of work and in his travels has acquired a fund of road and camping lore that has benefited many patrons of his store. Right now he is serving them with vacation supplies and information as to where to enjoy the annual holiday.

A Kiwanian, he is a member of that service club's board of directors and he was also a member of the committee that staged the first annual Torrance Factory Frolic last year. Murchison is a native of Kewanee, Ill., a graduate of Knox College at Galesburg, Ill., and a Western Auto Supplyman of 15 years' standing.



E. E. MURCHISON . . . authority on accessories chosen is a native of Kewanee, Ill., a graduate of Knox College at Galesburg, Ill., and a Western Auto Supplyman of 15 years' standing. Married, he has been a Californian since 1922.

Alfred Gourdiere, City's 2nd Postmaster, Dies



ALFRED GOURDIERE and First Mail Carriers . . . he held postmastership here 15 years

A lingering illness of several years' duration claimed the life of Alfred Gourdiere, this city's second postmaster who served until February, 1934, last Sunday afternoon at his home, 1807 Gramercy avenue. He was 63 years of age and had lived all but the first year of his life in California.

Funeral service was conducted yesterday afternoon at Stone and Myers' chapel in the presence of scores of old friends of the well-known resident who was an active civic worker until his health failed. Mrs. Frank Steinhilber, Christian Science reader, officiated and members of Torrance Masonic lodge paid their last tribute to their fellow Mason. At Roosevelt Memorial Park, members of the United Spanish War Veterans' camp in Eedondo Beach conducted graveside service for the man who organized their group and served two years as commander of the camp. Mr. Gourdiere, who was born in the state of Washington, was survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary E. Gourdiere, and a brother, Arthur E., of Salinas.

Palbearers at the funeral were Frank Steinhilber, Dr. C. L. Ingold, Willis R. Brooks, Col. N. F. Jamieson, G. M. Calder and J. H. Sprout. Honorary palbearers were J. M. Reddington, master of the Torrance Masonic lodge; Wallace Post, Dr. A. P. Stevenson, William H. Stanger and Her-

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P. E. Offers to Cut Rail Removal Cost One Half

As result of a conference Tuesday morning between Mayor William H. Tolson, City Engineer Leonard Young and O. A. Smith, president of the Pacific Electric Railway, the railway now offers to remove its tracks from Cabrillo avenue and give the city clear title to the right-of-way for less than half of what the P. E.

Passenger Service to L. A. to Be Discontinued

All passenger service between Los Angeles and Torrance will be discontinued by the Pacific and no substitute bus service offered, it was learned Tuesday by Mayor William H. Tolson.

President O. A. Smith of the P. E. informed the mayor that the railway expects to follow the recommendation of the State Railroad Commission to this effect in the near future. However Smith told Tolson that ample notice would be given of the discontinuance so that patrons of the railway can make other transportation arrangements.

Lack of patronage was given by both the Railroad Commission and the P. E.'s president as sole reason for discontinuing passenger service and making no substitution of buses. However, the railway is doing a "whale of a business" in freight here, according to Agent W. H. Bratton. He said that the freight receipts and shipments have been making steady gains for the past several months.

"I've been so busy I haven't had time to compile any figures on this part of our service but I will prepare some data on the freight business for announcement next week," Bratton said.

New Act May Provide Sewers in Local Tracts

Property owners in Vista Highlands and Meadow Park tracts here may have sewers installed at moderate cost under provisions of the sewer revenue bond act, which now is effective, it was learned today. Those two districts of the city have long desired sewer service and recently a move was started by residents in Vista Highlands to petition the council for such facilities.

The sewer revenue bond permits construction of sewers by issuing bonds payable solely from revenues of the sewage system, the charges being a small monthly fee that may be collected with the owner's water bill or other municipal service.

Only qualified electors in the district to be served may vote at the election to authorize such a bond issue under the new act, and owners of unimproved property are excluded from voting and are not called upon to pay the operation charges.

The act is new to California, but is in effect in about 30 other states of the union. It became effective last month.

'Air Raid' Maneuvers Next Month Will Find City Ready to 'Take Cover' as in War Time

It won't be another sensational "Man from Mars" affair but the Army and Navy air defense exercises sometime August 1, 2 and 3 are expected to reveal how civilians can best safeguard their lives and property in cooperation with the air services.

Here in Torrance the exercises will have a special meaning inasmuch as this city's industries and oil refinery and storage facilities would be among the first air raid objectives.

To prepare for the aircraft warning service tests, a meeting was conducted at the city council chamber Tuesday afternoon by Commander Lyle Doan of the American Legion post. Most of the city's industries, public service facilities, police, fire and Red Cross sent representatives to the session.

Bombs to be Signaled
It was agreed that when the "enemy planes" are reported

demanding last fall merely to re-align its tracks.

The proposition as made by President Smith to Mayor Tolson and Engineer Young is that the P. E. will clear its tracks and overhead wiring system on Cabrillo from the railway station nearly to Plaza del Amo for \$18,355.

Last fall the electric line offered to center and lower its Cabrillo tracks to permit paving of the center strip for \$38,500.

Offer Is Itemized
Mayor Tolson knows that the \$18,355 figure can be reduced still further if the city contracts for removal of the Cabrillo track system. He estimates the whole improvement project can be realized for "between \$12,000 and \$15,000."

He will make a full report on his meeting with President Smith and will reveal the reduced cost at the meeting of the City-Wide Highway Improvement association next Monday evening in the Chamber of Commerce.

The proposition, as made to the city officials by the head of the Pacific Electric, was:

To pay the trustees holding mortgages on the right-of-way and equipment, \$8,055;

To have the P. E. remove the tracks from station to end of the right-of-way near Plaza del Amo, \$9,500; and

To remove overhead wiring system, \$800.

Mayor Tolson said that he believes the Pacific Electric's latest offer "is most fair."

Meeting Monday Night

"But we can cut down the total cost considerably by contracting for the removal of tracks on Cabrillo and loading them on flat cars," he said yesterday. "I have already received an estimate for this work which is less than half of the \$9,500 which the Pacific Electric says it would cost to do the job."

President Smith has agreed that if the city finds it can do this job cheaper, it may do the work and also remove the overhead wiring which he estimates will cost the P. E. \$800 to take down.

All members of the City-Wide Highway Improvement association and interested residents are invited to attend the meeting Monday night, July 17, at 8:15 o'clock in the Chamber of Commerce.

The association, headed by R. J. Deinger, president, was formed last May for the purpose of supporting a program of major highway improvements here.

Now with the latest Pacific Electric offer to consider, the citizens' organization is expected to result in the weekly sessions leading toward submission of a definite proposition to the city electorate that would result in needed street betterments and possibly an expansion of municipal recreation facilities in Waltham.

judgment of military authorities that any considerable black-out in peace time is not wanted." Army authorities want these three-day exercises well known to the public. The 1937 and 1938 maneuvers were very much "hush, hush." However this time the Corps Area (including entire Pacific Coast) commander is of the opinion that the general public should know something of plans and efforts being made for protection against air raids.

In this connection while the actual existence and activities of the Aircraft Warning Service are being revealed, locations of observation posts to note the progress of the aerial "attack" and "defense" will not be announced, it is reported.

Commander Lyle Doan will make known additional local preparations for the maneuvers between now and the time for the exercises.